

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 03939 230440Z

ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-05 MMO-01 SS-15 SP-02 PER-01
ABF-01 SSO-00 CTME-00 ICAE-00 A-01 TRSE-00 /039 W
-----025647 230449Z /17

O 230434Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7857

S E C R E T TAIPEI 03939

FOR HOLBROOKE FROM AMBASSADOR UNGER

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AODE, TW
SUBJECT: MODE- TAIPEI DEA STAFF
REFS: (A) TAIPEI 2239, (B) STATE 150393,
- (C) TAIPEI 3724, (D) STATE 153169, (E) STATE 154697

1. SAIC STERNAMAN AND HIS DESIGNATED REPLACEMENT, LLOYD SINCLAIR, ARE NOT REPEAT NOT CONTINUING WITH COURTESY CALLS. HOWEVER, I AM INFORMED BY STERNAMAN THAT SEVERAL CALLS WERE MADE TO INTRODUCE SINCLAIR AFTER HIS ARRIVAL ON JUNE 14 AND BEFORE I WAS ABLE TO REACH STERNAMAN TO INSTRUCT HIM NOT TO MAKE CALLS. ACCORDING TO STERNAMAN, HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE THAT CONSIDERATION WAS BEING GIVEN TO CLOSING DEA OFFICE IN TAIPEI UNTIL JUNE 17.

SECRET

2. I AM SURE DEPARTMENT SHARED MY HOPE THAT CLOSING CUSTOMS AND DEA OFFICES IN TAIPEI COULD BE HANDLED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO MINIMIZE LOCAL CONCERNS ABOUT THESE ADDITIONAL U.S. WITHDRAWALS OF FUNCTIONS WHILE AT THE SAME TIME INDICATING TO GROC THAT WE DO NOT WISH TO END CLOSE COOPERATION WE HAVE SOUGHT IN INVESTIGATING MATTERS OF INTEREST TO CUSTOMS AND DEA.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 TAIPEI 03939 230440Z

3. BELIEVE CLOSING OF CUSTOMS OFFICE IS BEING ACCOMPLISHED IN THIS WAY. WE ARE EXPLAINING CLOSING PRIMARILY ON BASIS OF WORLD-WIDE MODE AND SOFTENING IT WITH ARRANGEMENT BY WHICH HONG KONG WILL HANDLE CUSTOMS MATTERS WITH ASSISTANCE OF EMBASSY. CLOSING OF DEA OFFICE, HOWEVER, WILL BE MORE DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN SINCE GROC ALREADY HAS BEEN LED TO BELIEVE THAT OFFICE IN

TAIPEI WILL REMAIN OPEN AND THAT SINCLAIR WILL REPLACE STERNAMAN AS SAIC. IT WOULD BE USEFUL WHEN WE INFORM INTERESTED PARTIES THAT OFFICE WILL CLOSE SEPTEMBER 30 IF WE COULD STATE WHAT PROVISIONS ARE BEING MADE TO HANDLE DEA MATTERS FOLLOWING CLOSURE. I URGE THAT WE EMPLOY THE SAME FORMULA WE HAVE ADOPTED FOR HANDLING CUSTOMS MATTERS, I.E., AT TIME WE INFORM THOSE PARTIES THAT DEA OFFICE IS BEING CLOSED WE ALSO EXPLAIN THAT SINCLAIR (WHO HAS ALREADY BEEN INTRODUCED TO MANY CONTACTS) IS REPLACING STERNAMAN BUT THAT HE WILL BE BASED IN HONG KONG AND COVER TAIWAN FROM THERE. UNGER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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